

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00806 171130Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----171135Z 037661 /23

O 171045Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6123
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
THE WHITE HOUSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0806

EXDIS

SECSTATE PASS USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

MADRID FOR AMBASSADOR BOWDLER AND A. LAKE WITH VICE
PRESIDENT'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: RH, SA, US, UK
SUBJ: OUR RESPONSE TO RHODESIAN THREAT TO ZAMBIA

REF: CAPE TOWN 0787

1. I RECEIVED AT NOON TODAY, MAY 17, THE FOLLOWING LETTER
FROM HAWKINS IN RESPONSE TO MY APPROACH OF MAY 15.

2. "I HAVE BEEN ASKED IF YOU WILL KINDLY ARRANGE ONWARD
TRANSMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM MY
PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER:

"BEGINS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE 15TH MAY
CONVEYED BY YOUR AMBASSADOR IN CAPE TOWN.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00806 171130Z

"I ASSURE YOU THAT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF INITIATING
AN ESCALATION OF HOSTILITIES ON THE ZAMBIAN BORDER. IT
WAS MY REALISATION OF THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH
ESCALATION THAT CAUSED ME TO ASK DR. OWEN TO USE HIS
GOOD OFFICES WITH DR. KAUNDA TO PREVENT THE PLANNED
INCURSIONS OF ZAPU TERRORISTS FROM ZAMBIA INTO RHODESIA.
IF THESE SHOULD DEVELOP THEY WOULD POSE A SERIOUS

THREAT TO THE LIVES AND SAFETY OF RHODESIANS, BLACK AND WHITE. I MUST ASK YOU TO APPRECIATE THAT IT IS A PRIME RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE SECURITY FORCES TO PROTECT THE CIVIL POPULATION AGAINST TERRORIST ATTACKS. WE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO TOLERATE A SITUATION WHERE THESE ATTACKS CAN BE MOUNTED WITH IMPUNITY FROM NEIGHBOURING TERRITORIES.

"I WAS THEREFORE GRATEFUL TO DR. OWEN FOR POINTING OUT TO DR. KAUNDA THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF AN ESCALATION BY EITHER SIDE. I HOPE THAT IN REPLY DR. KAUNDA HAS GIVEN A SIMILAR ASSURANCE TO MINE THAT HE WILL NOT PERMIT AN ESCALATION OF TERRORIST ATTACKS FROM BASES IN HIS COUNTRY. ENDS..

3. "I WOULD APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH IF YOU COULD EXPEDITE THE PASSAGE OF THE FOREGOING.

4. "AN IDENTICAL MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER. MANY THANKS.

"YOURS SINCERELY, H. HAWKINS". NELSON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USDEL SECRETARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAPET00806
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770174-1087
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770550/aaaabraaq.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0335be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 CAPE TOWN 787
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2495974
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OUR RESPONSE TO RHODESIAN THREAT TO ZAMBIA
TAGS: PPDC, MOPS, RH, SA, US, UK, SF, ZA, (CARTER, JIMMY), (HAWKINS, H)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0335be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009